

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Paragraph beginning at line 20 of page 2 has been amended as follows:

--The V_L and V_H portions of a monoclonal antibody have also been linked by a synthetic linker to form a single chain protein (scFv) which retains the same specificity and affinity for the antigen as the monoclonal antibody itself. Bird, R. E., et al. (1988) "Single-chain antigen-binding proteins" Science 242:423-426. A typical scFv is a recombinant polypeptide composed of a V_L tethered to a V_H by a designed peptide, such as (Gly₄-Ser)₃ (SEQ ID NO: 80), that links the carboxyl terminus of the V_L to the amino terminus of the V_H sequence. The construction of the DNA sequence encoding a scFv can be achieved by using a universal primer encoding the (Gly₄-Ser)₃ linker by polymerase chain reactions (PCR). Lake, D. F., et al. (1995) "Generation of diverse single-chain proteins using a universal (Gly₄-Ser)₃ (SEQ ID NO: 80) encoding oligonucleotide" Biotechniques 19:700-702.--